



Capstone  
foster care

Building brighter futures

YOUNG  
PEOPLE'S  
STATEMENT  
PURPOSE OF

# INTRODUCTION

This document tells you some of the ways we try our hardest to look after you well and make sure that you are safe. This document is called a Statement of Purpose.

We try really hard to make sure you feel happy and safe in your foster home.

This Statement of Purpose is so that you can see what is important to Capstone.

These are the laws that Capstone has to abide by:

- The Care Standards Act 2000.
- The Fostering Services Regulations 2011.
- The National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services 2011.

We also listen to suggestions from you, carers, families, and social workers. Their ideas can help Capstone find new and better ways of working.

This Statement of Purpose also tells you what we provide as a fostering agency and what we want to achieve.

This document is updated every year and was last updated in December 2021.

# AIMS & OBJECTIVES

All children have different needs and Capstone does its best to provide each child with a family that will be right for them.

Foster carers at Capstone have lots of training so that they can learn the skills they need to help children with different needs.

Capstone works with your social worker to find out what you need and to find you a fostering family where we think you will be happy.

Capstone will help you to sort out any problems that you think you may have and with your foster parents we will find ways of supporting you.

Sometimes children will see a therapist as well to help them to understand and work through their feelings so that they can get on with their life without a lot of bad memories getting in the way.

# STANDARDS OF CARE

Capstone and all of the people that work with you make sure that:

- We work in a way which puts you first
- You are protected and kept safe while in foster care.
- You and foster carers are “matched” carefully so that you are right for each other.
- Each child’s cultural needs are met. This could be about your religion, race, language or any other needs such as disabilities.
- We provide a really good service that meets all of your needs and helps you to be yourself and to be happy.
- We make sure you stay healthy have time to do your hobbies, help you at school and also when you are sad.
- We make sure that you are prepared for when you leave care, for example so that you:
  - Have savings in the bank
  - Know how to take care of yourself
  - Find a job which is right for you
  - Continue in further education if it is right for you
- We arrange family time with parents or other people who are important to you if this has been agreed. Sometimes children don’t want family time and sometimes it’s not possible.

## SERVICES & FACILITIES

Children who are placed with Capstone have all sorts of different needs. We have lots of people with lots of different skills including our foster carers and social workers, who can understand your needs and make sure you have a safe, secure and caring home.

## ABOUT CAPSTONE STAFF

At Capstone we think it is important to have the right people working for us.

We have lots of people who support you including our social workers, administrators and managers. We also have education support staff who can help you with your learning as well as Children's Champions so you always have someone to talk to about what makes you happy but also about anything that may be worrying you.



## COMPLAINTS & OUTCOMES

We want to make sure you feel safe and happy in your foster home. If you are unhappy or feel something isn't right, you can talk to us about it (this is called a complaint). It could be your foster carer, your social worker or your Capstone social worker, your Children's Champions, a teacher or someone else that you trust.

We care about you and we want to know when you're unhappy about something that has happened. We promise that your worries will always be taken seriously and dealt with as quickly as possible.

You do not need to worry. Your feedback helps us to make sure that you receive the care that you should and makes us better for the children and young people that we support.

### Who to contact

You can email and talk to Sandy or a manager whenever you need to. Here's how to contact us:

#### Capstone Foster Care

Just tell us you want to make a complaint

Phone: 0800 012 4004

Email: [talk@capstonefostercare.co.uk](mailto:talk@capstonefostercare.co.uk)

#### Registered Manager

Sandy Birha

Phone: 07725 026120

Email: [sandy.birha@capstonefostercare.co.uk](mailto:sandy.birha@capstonefostercare.co.uk)

#### Children's Support Worker/Champions

Aine Duffy

Phone: 07434 973638

Email: [aine.duffy@capstonefostercare.co.uk](mailto:aine.duffy@capstonefostercare.co.uk)

Sajida Yasin

Phone: 07967 775403

Email: [sajida.yasin@capstonefostercare.co.uk](mailto:sajida.yasin@capstonefostercare.co.uk)

Chantelle Msumbuga

Phone: 01322 629260

Email: [chantelle.msumbuga@capstonefostercare.co.uk](mailto:chantelle.msumbuga@capstonefostercare.co.uk)

If you don't want to speak to us, you can also write and speak to:

#### Children's Commissioner for England

**Dame Rachel De Souza**

Sanctuary Buildings,

20 Great Smith Street

London, SW1P 3BT

Phone: 0800 528 0731

Email: [help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](mailto:help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

#### Ofsted

Piccadilly Gate,

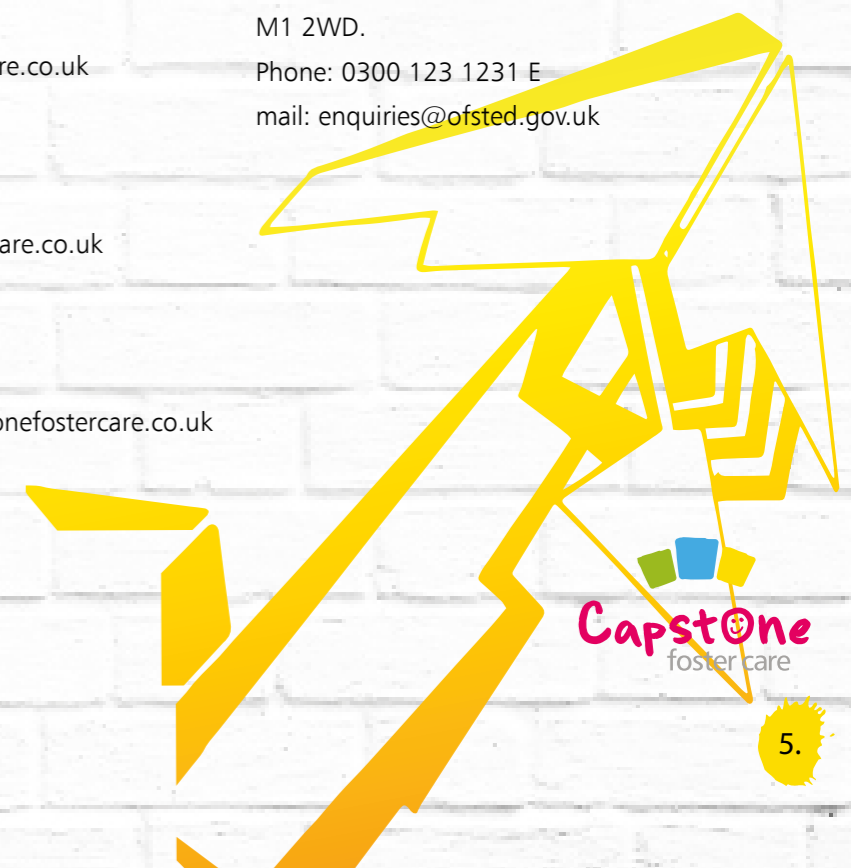
Store Street,

Manchester,

M1 2WD.

Phone: 0300 123 1231 E

mail: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)



# FINDING THE RIGHT CARERS

## Recruitment

Capstone looks for new and experienced carers who can be the sort of carers who will give you everything you need to feel safe, secure and cared for.

At Capstone, we know that every child is different so we find lots of different sorts of people and their families to make sure that we have a family that is right for you.

What makes all of our carers similar is that they are all going to do what they can for children that they care for.

## Assessment

We want to make sure that people are going to be really good carers, which is why it takes some time to find the right people, usually between 3 to 6 months.

A social worker will visit the people who want to become a foster carer in their home a lot and will also talk to their friends and family to find out more about them. We need to make sure that they have lots of energy and understanding to look after you.

They will have a check-up with the doctor to make sure they are fit and well and we check to see if the person has ever been in trouble with the police or with social services.

## Training

Training is a very important part of being a carer and all carers must make the time and effort to go to the training.

There are "carer support groups" where carers get together and talk about their experiences so that everybody can learn.

Capstone encourages all carers to work towards getting qualifications and learning as much as possible. This might be training from outside Capstone – maybe on the internet or at college.

# SUPERVISION & SUPPORT

Carers have a Supervising Social Worker who they will see at least once a month.

The Supervising Social Worker will give support and make sure that you and the carers are all safe and happy.

All carers have a review each year to make sure that they are doing a good job. This may be done by their Supervising Social Worker or it may be done by somebody else.

During the review Capstone asks lots of people what they think about the carers – their birth children, you, your social worker and someone at your school – to make sure that you feel good about being in this family and things are going well for you. We will not ask you what you feel in front of your carers so that hopefully you can be honest with us.

If you find it difficult to write down what you really think, that's ok, but we really would like to know what you think. Perhaps you will find it easier to talk to someone – you can talk to your carer's Supervising Social Worker. Or perhaps you would prefer to draw a picture to explain what you are feeling?

Then you can do that instead of writing something down.

# FINALLY

Capstone makes sure that we get your views in lots of different ways:

- By talking to you regularly
- By listening to what you say (or don't say!) in the carers' review
- By asking you to participate in activities which may involve some discussion about what you're feeling.

Capstone tries very hard to give the best opportunities to children so that they can have positive lives. But there is always room for improvement! We are always ready to listen to ideas and looking for ways to make things even better.





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Capstone Foster Care (South East) Ltd is a registered limited company No: 4486203.

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